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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 10/690,891

Customer No. 23379

Applicant: Michael S. Brown et al.

Confirmation No. 6568

Filed: Oct 21, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1617

Docket No. UTSD:1515

Examiner: Chong, Yong Soo

Title: Prenylation Inhibitors Reduce Host Cell Permissiveness to Viral Replication

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that this corr is being transmitted by facsimile to the Comm for Patents 571-273-8300 on January 21, 2007.
Signed _____
Richard Aron Osman

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

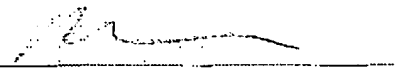
Thank you for the Restriction Requirement dated Jan 16, 2007.

We elect group III, species GGTI-286, with traverse. We also object to the characterization of the restriction as "complex."

The inventions of groups I-IV are not only related, they are all directed to the same method for reducing permissiveness of human cells to replication of a human pathogenic Flaviviridae virus predetermined (i) to lack any C-terminal CXXX box; (ii) to lack prenylated viral protein, and (iii) to be replication-dependent on host protein prenylation, the method comprising steps: (a) contacting human cells subject to infection by the virus with an effective amount of a selective inhibitor of a prenylation enzyme of the cells, wherein the enzyme is selected from the group consisting of an HMG CoA reductase and a prenyltransferase; and (b) confirming a resultant reduction in permissiveness of the cells to replication of the virus.

The restricted target viruses are related human pathogenic Flaviviridae viruses predetermined (i) to lack any C-terminal CXXX box; (ii) to lack prenylated viral protein, and (iii) to be replication-dependent on host protein prenylation. Similarly, the restricted inhibitors are related selective inhibitors of a prenylation enzyme of the cells, wherein the enzyme is selected from the group consisting of an HMG CoA reductase and a prenyltransferase.

Respectfully submitted,
Science & Technology Law Group



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